

Tyler Technologies: 'We stand

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WALHALLA — A manager with the company that handled Oconee County's reassessment pushed back against accusations that the firm relied too heavily on satellite images.

Maurice Gogarty, the Southwest regional manager for Tyler Tech-

nologies, Inc., said the company had field inspectors to look at most of the approximately 62,500 properties that had to be reappraised. He said the latest images from the county were used in a "small percentage of cases" when data collectors could not gain access to the property.

"We stand by our work," Gogarty said Monday.

Gogarty said Tyler openly invited county officials to see field inspections first-hand.

"We operate in an open and transparent manner," he said.

Gogarty released a statement on behalf of Tyler last week after Councilman Wayne McCall questioned the company's use of satellite photos during last week's council

meeting.

"We know that they seem to have used satellite photos," McCall said. "Does that constitute fraud?"

Moulder said he was aware of some complaints that might indicate onsite surveys were not done, but added that he was not prepared to make any general statement about a possibility Tyler "might

by our work'

have committed fraud."

Gogarty said Monday that he has talked with Moulder about the situation. He said Tyler used images and mapping technologies as a tool and aid in cases where gates were locked and access was denied.

"We believe we are the best in the business; however, this does not mean we are perfect," Gogarty



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said in the statement.

Tyler recommends that property owners look closely at their reassessment notices. If they believe that the proposed value is not accurate, they should call (864) 718-1424 to set up an appointment.

When calling, property owners should have the tax map number for each

property to be discussed.

Property owners should also come prepared to document why they think their property value should be less.

Gogarty said that as of Monday, Tyler has received 1,100 calls. He said 400 or 36 percent of all callers have scheduled an appointment to discuss their values. Gogarty classified the other 64 percent

of the calls as "inquiries."

"While reassessment is not an easy or popular activity, it is required by law, and we are doing everything we can to ensure that all properties are being treated fairly and equitably ...," Gogarty wrote.

Council awarded Tyler a \$1.8 million contract to do the county's reassessment.

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